

August 2015

## Meet the Staff

Center for Agricultural and Rural Development

Follow this and additional works at: <http://lib.dr.iastate.edu/iowaagreview>

---

### Recommended Citation

Center for Agricultural and Rural Development (2015) "Meet the Staff," *Iowa Ag Review*: Vol. 1 : Iss. 4 , Article 9.  
Available at: <http://lib.dr.iastate.edu/iowaagreview/vol1/iss4/9>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Center for Agricultural and Rural Development at Iowa State University Digital Repository. It has been accepted for inclusion in Iowa Ag Review by an authorized editor of Iowa State University Digital Repository. For more information, please contact [digirep@iastate.edu](mailto:digirep@iastate.edu).



## Meet The Staff

**Darnell B. Smith**, managing director of FAPRI at Iowa State, came to CARD in January 1993 from the University of Nebraska. A native of the Kearney, Nebraska, area, Darnell taught courses at both the University of Nebraska's Lincoln and Kearney campuses and worked on the Rural Policy Research Institute's Nebraska project in Lincoln. His experience as an analyst of Nebraska's economy and business trends while on the staff at Nebraska's Bureau of Business Research helped prepare him for the rigors of administering the day-to-day operations at FAPRI.

In addition to staying on top of the constant flow of information at FAPRI, Darnell's job is to make sure that FAPRI's models stay on the cutting edge of new theory and technology. He also oversees the networking with the FAPRI unit at the University of Missouri-Columbia, as staffers work toward faster transmission not only of data, but also of models and analysis. Analysts can now access centrally managed databases, create specialized databases for analytic model development, and store results of analysis for publication use in a central location—all without ever leaving their personal computers. According to Darnell, this capability has allowed full respecification of the international oilseed and dairy models with other livestock and crops models presently being restructured and updated. As he puts it, "The data management work is tedious, but we are finding efficiency gains to be dramatic."



Darnell Smith

No stranger to the challenges of modern agriculture, Darnell grew up on a 600-acre farm in central Nebraska ("near the bend in the Platte River"). He describes it as the ultimate in diversified farming, producing corn, soybeans, sorghum, hogs, sheep, and cattle. His rural background makes him well aware of policy impacts at the farm level. Darnell is currently heavily involved in directing the analysis FAPRI is providing to lawmakers and commodity groups on the legislative policy options that will carry American agriculture into the next century.

**Iowa Ag Review** is published by the Food and Agricultural Policy Research Institute (**FAPRI**) at Iowa State University, a program of the Center for Agricultural and Rural Development (**CARD**). FAPRI is organized cooperatively by CARD at Iowa State University and the Center for National Food and Agricultural Policy at the University of Missouri-Columbia. It provides economic analysis for policymakers and others interested in the agricultural economy. Analysis that has been conducted jointly with the University of Missouri is identified here as FAPRI analysis. This publication presents summarized results that emphasize the Iowa implications of ongoing agricultural policy analysis, analysis of the near-term agricultural situation, and discussion of new agricultural policies currently under consideration.

**Editor**

**William H. Meyers**  
Professor of Economics  
Co-Director, FAPRI

**Editorial Committee**

**Marvin L. Hayenga**  
Professor of Economics

**Keith Heffernan**

Assistant Director, CARD

**Darnell B. Smith**

Managing Director, FAPRI

**Editorial Staff**

**Steven L. Elmore**  
U.S. Analyst, FAPRI

**Mary Adams**

Communication Specialist, CARD

**Karen Kovarik**

Systems Support Specialist, FAPRI

Contact Betty Hempe for a free subscription, publication information, and address changes, at Iowa Ag Review, CARD Publications, Iowa State University, 578 Heady Hall, Ames, IA 50011-1070; Phone 515-294-7519, Fax 515-294-6336, e-mail CARD@card.iastate.edu, WWW <http://www.ag.iastate.edu/card>